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COMBINED COOP FOR CHICKS

Pen Large Enough to Accommodate Four Hens Designed by University of Missouri Experts.

(By PROF. H. L. KEMPSTER, University of Missouri, College of Agriculture.)
 A combined hatching, brooding and housing coop which is large enough to accommodate four hens and is as good as a 60-egg incubator has been designed by the poultry department of the University of Missouri. Farmers who have used this coop have pronounced it a success. This coop does away with the little "A"-shaped coops which are commonly given to hens after they have hatched their broods and which are soon outgrown by what chicks remain after the spring rains and rats have taken their toll.

The coop is three feet wide, six feet long, two feet high in the rear and three feet high in front. A door eight inches high runs the entire length of the back so as to permit easy access to the hen. The front consists of four little doors covered with rat-proof wire netting. These slide up and down. Just beneath the eaves is a door a foot wide running along the front. The opening made by this door is covered with wire screen also. By opening this door sufficient light is afforded, and also protection from rains. In front of this coop is placed four runways corresponding to the four openings. These are a foot high and three feet long. They are covered with wire screen also.

The coop can be used for hatching and brooding. It is divided by burlap frames into four compartments. The aim is to set four hens in the back



Chick-Saving Hatching Coop.

part of the coop and keep food and water in the runways in front. After hatching the chicks from two hens are given to one for brooding. Later, when the hen weans her chicks, the remaining partition can be removed and the coop can be used to house the young stock for the remainder of the season. It makes hen hatching easier, and more efficient brooding possible. It can be made rat-proof very easily and can be removed from place to place with little trouble.

GOOD HINTS ABOUT GUINEAS

Hard to Estimate Number of Eggs Females Lay on Account of Their Habit of Hiding Nests.

The guineas are good layers, but owing to their skill in hiding their nests and their habit of changing their nest if it is disturbed, it is hard to say how many eggs they will lay, possibly 60 to 100. Guineaes are inclined to be monogamous; that is, to have but one mate, but a male will mate with two females. Poor hatches usually result if more females are placed with a male.

Young guineas are fed like young turkeys, with curds, bread and milk or boiled eggs and bread crumbs the first week, always mixing once a day with sand, and for every meal making one-third of the meal green food, chopped onion or dandelion tops. Finely chopped lettuce is good when plentiful. Unless they have a good run they should have plowed fields to roam over; this is not necessary. When they are large enough to be given free range they will pick up most of their living, but should always be fed at night, to give them the habit of returning home.

Meat Food Pays Well.

It costs less to feed a pullet that is getting no meat scrap or skim milk, but it costs more to produce a dozen eggs from her—she lays so many less when deprived of meat food.

Geese and Ducks.

Geese cannot be profitably hatched and reared artificially, while incubators and brooders have revolutionized the duck business.

Swat the Mites.

Swat the mites in the hen coop. An application of crude creosote is good medicine for them.

Tone Up Fowls' Appetite.

A pan of buttermilk and ground feed now and then will tone up the appetites of the fowls.



EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR LICE

Important Question Right Now Because Lice Are More Troublesome in Winter Than Summer.

(By R. C. ASHEY, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.)

It has been estimated that a 150-pound hog has 92,000 drops of blood. Suppose he is supporting 1,000 lice and each takes one drop of blood per day. What per cent of his blood will be lost daily, and who will pay the bill?

The question is important right now, for lice are worse in winter than in summer. The hogs pile up closely and spend much time in their beds. The lice take advantage of the situation and breed rapidly.

To remove the lice is neither difficult nor expensive. Dipping or spraying with coal-tar compounds is dangerous in winter, but three other treatments are available. These are:

1. Equal parts kerosene and machine oil mixed together and applied with an oil can, brush or swab.

2. Crude oil (thinned with kerosene, if too thick), applied with a brush or as a spray.

3. Powdered staphylinaria dusted on the pigs, or steeped as a tea and applied with a brush or as a spray.

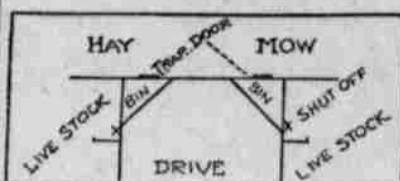
For a small bunch the first treatment is the most convenient, but when one has many hogs the crude oil is cheaper. Be sure to apply behind the ears and in both flanks. The lice prefer folds of the skin.

Clean the beds and pens thoroughly, also. If these are thoroughly sprayed with the oil, there should be no further trouble from the lice. If the hogs sleep in straw sheds, one can keep them free from lice by treating them every two weeks. Try it!

FEED BINS MADE CONVENIENT

Can Be Built Beneath Hay Floor Where Stock Is Kept—Much Time and Labor Is Saved.

Handy feed bins can be built beneath the floor of hay drive where stock is kept below the hay. Slanted as shown, the grain falls into the spout leading into a box to catch the waste, says a writer in Western Farmer. A shutoff slide fits into end of spout. The spout may be made to empty into alley or where most convenient. This



Feed Bins.

saves labor and time, because you fill the bins through trap doors in floor above and there is no lifting at any time.

FEED FOR FATTENING STEERS

Result of Interesting Experiment at South Dakota Station With Silage and Mill Products.

The South Dakota station reports a test made in which three lots of yearling steers of four head each were fed during a 146-day feeding period, each lot receiving all the silage the steers would eat and 12 pounds of a by-product, this being for lot one oil meal, lot two cotton seed meal, and lot three dried distillers' grains. The average daily gains per head were 2.45, 1.95, and 2.17 pounds, respectively; and during the first ninety days 2.69, 2.08, and 2.48 pounds. The estimated cost per pound of gain was 5.86, 6.44, and 5.5 cents.

In two other lots grain was substituted for one-half, by weight, of the silage fed in the former lots, lot four receiving oats and lot five, corn. The former lot made average daily gains of 2.18 pounds per head, the latter 2.09, and during the first ninety days 2.3 and 2.01 pounds, respectively, costing 6.88 and 8.22 cents per pound of gain. The average amount of gain for the 146-day feeding period was as follows: Lot one, 19.7 pounds of silage and 1.2 pounds of oil meal; lot two, 21.2 pounds of silage and 1.5 pounds of cotton seed meal; lot three, 20.3 pounds of silage and 1.3 pounds of dried distillers' grains; lot four, 10.9 pounds of silage and 4.7 pounds of oats; and lot five, 11.6 pounds of silage and 5.9 pounds of shelled corn.

Danger With Alfalfa.

Avoid letting horses overfeed on alfalfa hay, as there is danger of causing kidney trouble. A rule that has been followed successfully in feeding alfalfa hay is to give one pound of hay for every 100 pounds of horse weight.

Time for Watering Horse.

Water taken into the stomach of a horse is bound to go in quickly. If given after feeding, it will carry much undigested food with it. Before meals is the time for watering.



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